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REMARKS

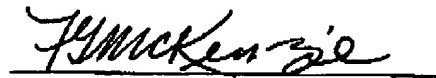
The Office action dated May 26, 2006, has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendment has been made in response thereto.

Claims 47-50 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as anticipated by Kouno (USPN 5,947,224). Claims 51-53 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over the '224 patent.

Claims 47-53 have been canceled, thereby overcoming the basis for the rejections.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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